

**WAC 197-11-960 Environmental checklist.**

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

*Purpose of checklist:*

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

*Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:*

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Fazon Lake Beaver Dam Removal

2. Name of applicant:

Daniel Garrett, Lead Warmwater Fisheries Biologist, Region 4

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

16018 Mill Creek Blvd Mill Creek, WA 98012

4. Date checklist prepared: 8/20/2013

5. Agency requesting checklist: WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

Once approved, Joel Ingram (WDFW R4 Habitat Biologist) and I will visit the site several times and remove the beaver dam in 1-foot increments while monitoring changes in water level at the boat launch. Once the lake has been returned to normal conditions, further monitoring will be required during the month of September and October to ensure the beaver(s) does not return to the site.

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

If the dam is reconstructed in the future, we may consider additional options including beaver translocation. However, the most immediate action must be to return the lake to a normal level and monitor the conditions thereafter. Please refer to the HPA application, and attached photo and diagram for more specifics.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

See attached HPA application. There are no expected risks or impacts to native fauna as a result of our planned dam removal. The outlet stream is a manmade canal that drains through a series of holding ponds and into a seep hole named Green Lake. This canal system is ideal seasonal habitat for waterfowl, but does not support native fishes such as trout, salmon, or minnow species.

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

NA

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

HPA  
SEPA

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

In recent years, a small beaver dam consisting of sticks packed in mud has been constructed on the outlet stream of Fazon Lake. This dam has blocked the flow of water leaving Fazon Lake, and caused a 2-3 foot rise in lake level. Currently, the WDFW boat launch is submerged and anglers must back their vehicles 30 meters into the lake to reach the ramp where boats can be unloaded. Aside from the inconvenience of difficult launching conditions, this situation poses an imminent risk to the resource with regards to pollutants that may be introduced from the undercarriage of vehicles.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.



County: Whatcom  
Section: 13  
Township: 39 N  
Range: 3 E

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, bog/swamp/wetland

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

1-2% slope, low-lying area currently below the water line.

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.

Peat, muck, decaying plant matter

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

No

e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

NA

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

No, the current outlet canal will easily hold the outgoing water

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

NA

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

NA

a. Air

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

NA, we will use hand tools

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

No

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

NA

### 3. Water

#### a. Surface:

- 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

Fazon Lake is a year-around lake which drains from the NW corner into a small manmade drainage ditch that flows through a series of holding ponds and ends at a seep hole named Green Lake. This is a closed system with no coldwater, fluvial fishes except for stocked brown trout. There is no connectivity to waters supporting anadromous fishes. The drainage ditch is seasonal and does periodically dry up in late summer.

- 2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

No

- 3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

Approximately 15-20 cubic feet of mud and sticks will be removed. This should allow the outlet stream to flow freely.

- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

There is an unknown quantity of water currently inundating the shoreline of Fazon Lake. However, based on the size of the lake (32 acres) and the current level of the lake (2-3 feet above normal), we estimate the water to be drained between 364,000 and 546,000 cubic meters of water. Given the amount of water, we propose to drain the lake in two stages. See previous statements.

- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

NA

- 6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

No

#### b. Ground:

- 1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

NA

- 2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

NA

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c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

- 1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

Described in previous statements.

- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

No

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any:

NA

4. Plants

a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:

X\_\_\_\_\_ deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other

\_\_\_\_\_ evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other

X\_\_\_\_\_ shrubs

\_\_\_\_\_ grass

\_\_\_\_\_ pasture

\_\_\_\_\_ crop or grain

X\_\_\_\_\_ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other

X\_\_\_\_\_ water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other

\_\_\_\_\_ other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

NA

c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

NA

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

NA

5. Animals

- a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

birds: eagle, songbirds

mammals: beaver

fish: largemouth bass, brown trout, bluegill, channel catfish, bullhead catfish

- b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

NA

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- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

Migration route for waterfowl. Lake is used during winter months by waterfowl.

- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

NA

## 6. Energy and natural resources

- a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

NA

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties?  
If so, generally describe.

NA

- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal?  
List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

NA

## 7. Environmental health

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal?  
If so, describe.

NA

- 1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

NA

- 2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

NA

**b. Noise**

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

NA

- 2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

NA

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- 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

NA

**8. Land and shoreline use**

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

Surrounding property is overgrown by brush.

- b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

No

- c. Describe any structures on the site.

None

- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

No

- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

Private property, we have permission of the landowner to access beaver dam through his property.

- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

NA

- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

NA

- h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

No

- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

Two persons.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

NA

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

NA

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l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

NA

#### 9. Housing

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

NA

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

NA

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

NA

#### 10. Aesthetics

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

NA

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

NA

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

NA

#### 11. Light and glare

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

NA

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

NA



c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

NA

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

NA

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## 12. Recreation

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

Fishing, duck hunting

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

No, the proposed project was encouraged by the shoreline residents and local angling clubs.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

NA

## 13. Historic and cultural preservation

a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

NA

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.

NA

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:

NA

## 14. Transportation

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

NA

b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

NA

c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

NA

- d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

No

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- e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

No

- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

Two vehicles, two days

- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

NA

#### 15. Public services

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

No

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

NA

#### 16. Utilities

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.

None

- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

NA

#### C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature:  .....

Date Submitted: 8/21/13 .....

## Fazon Lake Beaver Dam Removal Project August 2013

HPA Submitted 7/29/2013 by Danny Garrett, Fish Bio 3, Mill Creek Office

### Problem Statement:

In recent years, a small beaver dam consisting of sticks packed in mud has been constructed on the outlet stream of Fazon Lake. This dam has blocked the flow of water leaving Fazon Lake, and caused a 2-3 foot rise in lake level. Currently, the WDFW boat launch is submerged and anglers must back their vehicles 30 meters into the lake to reach the ramp where boats can be unloaded. Aside from the inconvenience of difficult launching conditions, this situation poses an imminent risk to the resource with regards to pollutants that may be introduced from the undercarriage of vehicles.

### Planned Activities and Outcome:

Once approved, Joel Ingram (WDFW R4 Habitat Biologist) and I will visit the site several times and remove the beaver dam in 1-foot increments while monitoring changes in water level at the boat launch. Once the lake has been returned to normal conditions, further monitoring will be required during the month of September and October to ensure the beaver(s) does not return to the site. If the dam is reconstructed in the future, we may consider additional options including beaver translocation. However, the most immediate action must be to return the lake to a normal level and monitor the conditions thereafter. Please refer to the HPA application, and attached photo and diagram for more specifics.

### Potential Risks to Native Fauna:

There are no expected risks or impacts to native fauna as a result of our planned dam removal. The outlet stream is a manmade canal that drains through a series of holding ponds and into a seep hole named Green Lake. This canal system is ideal seasonal habitat for waterfowl, but does not support native fishes such as trout, salmon, or minnow species.





## HYDRAULIC PROJECT APPROVAL SIMPLIFIED APPLICATION

**WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

AGENCY USE ONLY

**Date Received:**

**HPA#:**

**NOTE:** If you need to fill out a Joint Aquatic Resources Permit Application (JARPA) because your project requires a federal permit, please discontinue using this form and submit the completed JARPA instead. The JARPA form is available at [www.epermitting.org](http://www.epermitting.org). You can find more information about federal permits at <http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/opas/index.asp>.

### Project Type

Please indicate what type of project you are requesting review of (*check all that apply*):

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Road maintenance work (Plans required)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Mineral prospecting (Plans required)<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beaver dam modification (Plans required)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Repositioning or removal of large wood | <input type="checkbox"/> Dock maintenance/repair (Plans required)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientific instrument installation<br><input type="checkbox"/> Trenchless conduit (utility) crossing (Plans required)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Fish screen maintenance or replacement (Plans required) |
|---|---|

### Project Plans

Please attach project plans if the box checked above indicates such. You can find more detail on project plans requirements at [http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/hpa/hpa\\_criteria.html](http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/hpa/hpa_criteria.html).

<b>Applicant Last Name</b>		<b>Applicant First Name</b>		<b>Middle Initial</b>
Garrett		Daniel		L
<b>Organization Name</b>				
Washington Dept of Fish and Wildlife				
<b>Applicant Mailing Address (Street or PO Box)</b>				
16018 Mill Creek Blvd				
<b>City</b>		<b>State</b>		<b>Zip</b>
Mill Creek		WA		98012
<b>Phone (Home)</b>	<b>Phone (Cell)</b>	<b>Phone (Work)</b>	<b>E-mail</b>	
(208) 310-6066	same	425-775-1311 Ext 101	dan.garrett@dfw.wa.gov	

### Project Description

#### **Summary of project:**

We will remove a 2-3' mud/stick beaver dam, likely constructed several years ago on the outlet of Fazon Lake (48.869120 N, 122.364575 W). This dam is impeding the flow of water out of Fazon Lake, and flooding the WDFW access and boat launch. We will remove the beaver dam in several stages, and monitor water levels at the boat launch.

**Will you be operating equipment in water? If yes, what type of equipment?**

No special machinery is required. The beaver dam can be removed with hand tools.

**When do you plan to do the work?**

During the month of August, 2013.

**How will you accomplish the work and minimize impacts to fish life and fish habitat?**

There are no expected impacts to fish and wildlife, as long as the lake level is dropped slowly over a period of several weeks.

**Project Site Location (If multiple project sites, attach additional site location information separately)**

<b>County and Waterbody Name</b> Fazon Lake outlet stream		<b>Driving Directions</b> East from Bellingham approximately 3 mi on SR542, Left on Everson-Goshen Rd 4.5 mi, Right on Hemmi Rd .25 mi, Left at unmarked paved road to access site parking area.	
<b>Site Address</b> East Hemmi Road, Bellingham, WA			
<b>Township</b>	<b>Range</b>	<b>Section</b>	<b>Quarter Section</b>
39N	3E	13	

**State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)**

Please attach your State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) determination for the project. If your project does not require SEPA review, please attach written documentation from your lead agency (usually city or county) stating the SEPA exemption. For more information on SEPA go to: [www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/sepa/e-review.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/sepa/e-review.html)

**Signature and \$150 Payment (See Fee Exemptions below)**

- ☐ \$150 check payable to Washington Dept. of Fish & Wildlife attached. (Check # \_\_\_\_\_)  
☐ Charge to billing account under agreement with WDFW. (Agreement # \_\_\_\_\_)  
☒ My project is exempt from the application fee. (Check appropriate exemption)  
     ☐ HPA processing is conducted by applicant-funded WDFW staff.  
         (Agreement # \_\_\_\_\_)  
     ☐ Mineral prospecting and mining.  
     ☐ Project occurs on farm and agricultural land.  
         (Attach a copy of current land use classification recorded with the county auditor, or other proof of current land use.)  
     ☐ Project is a modification of an existing HPA originally applied for prior to July 10, 2012.  
         (HPA # \_\_\_\_\_)

I hereby certify that this application is made with the consent of the lawful property owner(s) and that all information submitted with this application is complete and correct. False statements, errors, and/or omissions may be sufficient cause for denial of the request. I consent to representatives of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife entering and inspecting the project area(s) listed above and any work or equipment related to the project. Such inspections shall occur at reasonable times, and if practical, with prior notice.

Daniel Garrett		7/29/2013
<b>Applicant Printed Name</b>	<b>Applicant Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>

**Submitting Application**

Mail, hand deliver, FAX, or email the completed application, attachments, and if required your \$150 payment to:

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife**